

# The Storm Ready Program in New Jersey

### Is Your Community StormReady?

To help guard against the ravages of severe weather, the National Weather Service has designed *Storm*Ready, a voluntary program aimed at arming communities with the communication and safety skills necessary to save lives and property.

#### What are the Benefits of Becoming an Officially-designated StormReady Community?

- ❖ Improves the timeliness and effectiveness of hazardous weather warnings for the public. Provides detailed and clear recommendations by which local emergency managers may establish/improve effective hazardous weather operations.
  - Helps local emergency managers justify costs and purchases related to supporting their hazardous weather-related programs.
  - \* Rewards local hazardous-weather mitigation programs that have achieved a desired performance level.
  - Provides a means of acquiring 25 additional Community Rating System points assigned by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO).
  - ❖ Provides an "image incentive" to counties, cities and towns that can identify themselves as being "StormReady".
  - ❖ Encourages the enhancement of hazardous weather preparedness programs in jurisdictions surrounding "StormReady" Communities and Counties.
  - Receive two StormReady street signs and a recognition plaque for display.

## What are the Basic Criteria to become StormReady in New Jersey?

To be officially recognized as *Storm*Ready, a community must:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and Emergency Operations Center.
- ❖ Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts and to alert the public.

- Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally.
- ❖ Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars.
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

#### How does my community apply for StormReady Recognition?

- Review the *Storm*Ready Application and Criteria for New Jersey, available from the NJ Office of Emergency Management, Operational Planning Bureau.
- Check the websites <u>www.nws.noaa.gov/stormready/</u> and <u>www.nws.noaa.gov/er/phi/stormready.htm</u> for additional information on the StormReady program.
- Complete the StormReady Application and submit to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, Operational Planning Bureau.
- ❖ The application is reviewed by the *Storm*Ready Advisory Board and a site visit is made.
- Upon approval, a formal recognition is made.

Please direct questions to Mariana Mossler, New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, LPPMOSSM@GW.NJSP.ORG.



## StormReady News: New Jersey

## New Jersey Has its First Official StormReady Community!

Avalon Borough, Cape May County, was recognized by the National Weather Service as *Storm*Ready on July 25, 2001. An official recognition ceremony highlighted and publicized Avalon's extraordinary efforts in becoming *Storm*Ready. Additional communities have expressed interest in the program and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management looks forward to receiving their applications.

## Storm Ready Documents Online for New Jersey.

Each state's *Storm*Ready program is tailored to that state's particular situation. As such, *Storm*Ready Criteria and Applications vary somewhat from state to state. New Jersey's documents can be obtained from this website. Please direct questions to Mariana Mossler, New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, <a href="mailto:LPPMOSSM@GW.NJSP.ORG">LPPMOSSM@GW.NJSP.ORG</a>.

Click for document: New Jersey StormReady Application

New Jersey StormReady Critera